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## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, January 28, 2008, at 2 p.m.

## Senate

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2008

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today, retired Navy Chaplain Dr. Alan Keiran, the chief of staff of the Senate Chaplain's Office, will lead the Senate in prayer.

### PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let's pray together.

Lord God, on this anniversary of Saint Paul's conversion, we are reminded of the positive impact people of faith have made in human history. So we ask that You equip all of us with the wisdom, strength, and perseverance needed to overcome any obstacles we will face in serving this Nation and its citizens.

Bless our Senators with opportunities to advance democracy, justice, and economic parity. Bless their staff members as they labor to support the honorable men and women they serve.

For military men and women deployed in harm's way, and their families, we pray Your providential protection, comfort, and peace.

O Lord, our precious Saviour and eternal King, equip leaders across this great land with the wisdom and endurance to meet the challenges ahead.

In Your holy Name we pray. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, January 25, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 2248 as soon as I leave the floor. This is the FISA legislation. There will be no roll-call votes today. As a reminder, Senators have until 1 p.m. today to file germane first-degree amendments to the Rockefeller substitute.

### FISA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as I said twice yesterday—and I will just say it briefly this morning—Democrats believe there are a lot of bad people out there and that there should be some form of collecting information over the telephone. But we believe it should be done in an orderly way in keeping with our Constitution. It appears, based on Republican actions yesterday, they want no controls whatsoever on the President. They want exactly what he has been doing now, which is violating the law.

Mr. President, we have offered a 2-week extension of the bill, a 30-day extension, a 15-month extension. If this bill that we have now before us is not enacted, it is not because of Democrats, it is because the Republicans, in conjunction with Vice President CHERNEY and the President, have made some determination that there should be no FISA legislation.

I, frankly, do not think that cloture will be invoked Monday afternoon. That being the case, it is virtually legislatively impossible to do anything by February 1. Remember, the House is out of session all but 1 day next week.

So the record should be very clear, we believe there are very bad people out there. We believe there should be some way of collecting information. But we believe, as does the vast majority of the American people, it should be collected in some way that is within the bounds of our Constitution.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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